

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 061251
ORIGIN AF-04

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 H-03 AID-01 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00
/024 R

DRAFTED BY AF/S:KMCCORMICK;DH
APPROVED BY AF/S:DPETTERSON
AF/I:SMOWLE (PHONE)
H:GLANPHER (INFO)
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-----043261 092351Z /75
O 092317Z MAR 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY GABORONE IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OREP, BC (SOLARZ, STEPHEN)

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE VISIT BY CONGRESSMAN SOLARZ

I. REP. STEPHEN SOLARZ (D-NY) IS PLANNING TRIP TO SOUTHERN AFRICA AND HAS EXPRESSED INTEREST IN INCLUDING IN HIS ITINERARY A BRIEF STOPOVER IN BOTSWANA. SOLARZ' PRIMARY INTEREST IS IN GAUGING REACTIONS OF FRONT LINE AND OTHER AFRICAN LEADERS TO INTERNAL SETTLEMENT IN RHODESIA. HE TOLD BOTSWANA EMBASSY HERE THAT HE WOULD GO TO GABORONE ONLY IF ASSURED OF MEETING WITH PRESIDENT KHAMA, BUT AT DEPARTMENT'S SUGGESTION MAY STILL BE INTERESTED IN VISIT IF HE COULD MEET WITH FOREIGN MINISTER MOGWE OR VICE PRESIDENT MASIRE. CODEL WOULD ARRIVE IN GABORONE AT 0815 APRIL 1 ON BP FLIGHT 164 AND DEPART AT 1330 SAME DAY ON SA FLIGHT 109, UNFORTUNATELY LEAVING MINIMAL TIME FOR APPOINTMENTS WITH GOB LEADERS.
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PAGE 02 STATE 061251

2. SOLARZ IS INFLUENTIAL MEMBER OF HOUSE SUBCOMMITTEE ON AFRICA WITH KEEN INTEREST IN HUMAN RIGHTS AND REPUTATION FOR SERIOUSNESS REGARDING VISITS ABROAD. HE WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY ADVISER STEPHEN SHALOM AND HAS EXPRESSED PREFERENCE FOR HEAVY SCHEDULE INCLUDING WORKING LUNCH AS EMBASSY DEEMS APPROPRIATE.

3. BOTSWANA EMBASSY HERE IS ANXIOUS TO FACILITATE VISIT
AND HAS RECOMMENDED TO GABORONE THAT PRESIDENT KHAMA SEE
SOLARZ.

4. ACTION REQUESTED:

(A) APPOINTMENTS WITH KHAMA AND OTHER GOB OFFICIALS AS
APPROPRIATE DURING SHORT TIME AVAILABLE FOR VISIT;

(B) EMBASSY BRIEFING;

(C) CONFIRMATION OF FLIGHT SCHEDULES;

(D) RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING PROTOCOL, ATTIRE, ETC.
VANCE

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
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